U.S. Department of Justice



United States Attorney Eastern District of Wisconsin

517 East Wisconsin Avenue Milwaukee, WI 53202 414 / 297-1700 TTY 414 / 297-1088

April 27, 2005

NEWS SUMMARY:

United States Attorney Steven M. Biskupic announced today that an information was filed charging JULIE'S CAFÉ, LLC with a pattern and practice of employing illegal aliens and co-owner STEPHEN METZLER with harboring illegal aliens.

From 1998 until on or about June 15, 2004, Julie's Café, which has two restaurants in Green Bay, Wisconsin and one restaurant in DePere, Wisconsin was engaged in a pattern and practice of hiring illegal aliens. Julie's Café is owned by Stephen Metzler and his wife. Julie's Café regularly employed illegal aliens who were required to purchase false identification documents from the owners in order to work. The false identification documents included fraudulent social security cards and birth certificates of United States citizens. The aliens were paid in cash and the fee for the false identity was deducted from their wages. Metzler harbored the illegal aliens by providing them with employment at the Julie's Café.

If convicted, Metzler faces a maximum term of 10 years in prison and a fine of \$250,000. If convicted, Julie's Café faces a maximum fine of \$3,000 per employed alien.

The case was investigated by the Department of Homeland Security - Immigration and Customs Enforcement, the Green Bay Police Department, and the Social Security Administration. The case is assigned to Assistant United States Attorney Tracy M. Johnson.

The public is cautioned that an information is merely the formal method of returning charges against an individual and does not constitute inference of his or her guilt. An individual is presumed innocent until such time, if ever, that the government established his or her guilt beyond a reasonable doubt.

Copies of the plea agreement are available in the Clerk of Courts office of the Federal Courthouse, 125 South Jefferson Street in Green Bay, Wisconsin.

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